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DDASaccident176

Humanitarian Demining Accident and Incident Database
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DDAS Accident Report

Accident details

Report date: 18/05/2006	Accident number: 176
Accident time: 10:55	Accident Date: 10/09/1996
Where it occurred: Slor Kram, Banteay Meanchey Province	Country: Cambodia
Primary cause: Field control inadequacy (?)	Secondary cause: Field control inadequacy (?)
Class: Handling accident	Date of main report: 25/10/1996
ID original source: none	Name of source: CMAC
Organisation: Name removed	
Mine/device: Type 72 AP blast	Ground condition: not recorded
Date record created: 14/02/2004	Date last modified: 14/02/2004
No of victims: 2	No of documents: 1

Map details

Longitude:	Latitude:
Alt. coord. system:	Coordinates fixed by:
Map east:	Map north:
Map scale: not recorded	Map series:
Map edition:	Map sheet:
Map name:	

Accident Notes

protective equipment not worn (?)
safety distances ignored (?)
inadequate investigation (?)
no independent investigation available (?)

Accident report

This accident was listed as having occurred on 10th September 1996 in the country MAC Accident summary sheet, which noted the mine type.

No country MAC Accident report was on record in January 1999.

The accident classification is inferred from the injuries.

Victim Report

Victim number: 224	Name: Name removed
Age:	Gender: Male
Status: deminer	Fit for work: not known
Compensation: US\$2,400	Time to hospital: 1 hour ten minutes
Protection issued: Safety spectacles	Protection used: none

Summary of injuries:

INJURIES

minor Chest

minor Eyes

minor Face

minor Leg

minor Shoulder

severe Hand

AMPUTATION/LOSS

Fingers

COMMENT

See medical report.

Medical report

A medical report recorded that the accident occurred at 10:55 and the victims arrived at Banteay Meanchey Provincial Hospital at 12:05.

Victim No.1 had suffered a broken right hand with traumatic amputation of three fingers, leaving the thumb and forefinger. He had also lost part of the little finger of his left hand. He lost several upper and lower teeth, suffered superficial peppering to his face, left shoulder and chest and large fragment wounds to the back of both calves. His eyes were 'burned' by the blast.

Victim No.1 left hospital on 25th November 1996. The forefinger on his right hand and the little and ring fingers of his left hand were permanently disabled. Although the wounds on his legs had healed well, his right knee was still painful, possibly caused by a fragment still lodged there. His other injuries, including his eyes, had healed.

Victim Report

Victim number: 225	Name: Name removed
Age:	Gender: Male
Status: deminer	Fit for work: not known
Compensation: not made available	Time to hospital: 1 hour ten minutes

Protection issued: Safety spectacles

Protection used: none

Summary of injuries:

INJURIES

minor Arm

minor Face

minor Leg

minor Neck

severe Arm

severe Eyes

severe Hand

severe Shoulder

AMPUTATION/LOSS

Finger

COMMENT

See medical report.

Medical report

A medical report recorded that the accident occurred at 10:55 and the victims arrived at Banteay Meanchey Provincial Hospital at 12:05.

Victim No.2's injuries were listed as: right hand broken; wound on right hand side of head; left hand broken, one finger amputated, one finger broken; slight bilateral eye injuries; multiple superficial fragment injuries.

The doctor felt that the victim could not continue to work as deminer but could possibly do some other light work.

Victim No.2 left hospital on 11th December. The history of his hospitalisation was then listed as follows. He was brought to the hospital unconscious and breathing quickly. His right hand had a 80mm cut. His right shoulder was broken. His left forearm was broken. Both arms had multiple fragment injuries. His right calf had multiple fragment injuries and a 60mm gash. His eyes were filled with dust and burnt by the blast. He had multiple fragment injuries to the face. He lost the end of his left index finger and he had gashes on his forehead and neck.

When Victim No.2 left hospital his right hand still could not grip, his shoulder was stiff, the calf was healed but atrophied and the sight in both eyes was limited. He was judged to be too disabled to work at that time but the future was uncertain.

Analysis

The primary cause of this accident is listed as a *"Field control inadequacy"* because supervisors should have ensured that two deminers were not close to a potential initiation.

The two men were close to the detonation and both suffered severe hand injury so a handling accident is inferred. Light face injuries including eye "burns" imply that their safety spectacles were not worn. If the victims were handling the device, the control failure is compounded because the demining group's SOPs did not allow them to handle devices.